

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9217

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, HO

SUBJECT: SPECIAL ELECTION IN COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS' UNION, SINECELH

1. DURING A SPECIAL CONGRESS HELD JANUARY 17-28, DELEGATES OF THE COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS' UNION (SINECELH) ELECTED A COMPLETELY DEMOCRATIC SLATE HEADED BY LONG TIME PTTI REPRESENTATIVE MARIO FLORES. THE CONGRESS FOLLOWED A LENGTHY PERIOD OF INTRA-UNION SQUABBLING ON IDEOLOGY AND OTHER ISSUES AND WAS NECESSITATED BY THE RESIGNATION OF UNION PRESIDENT GERMAN BURGOS.

2. FLORES' VICTORY COMES AS A SURPRISE. HE HAS LONG HAD EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE EMBASSY AND WITH AIFLD BUT WAS NOT CONSIDERED TO HAVE SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT OUTSIDE HIS GROUP OF FELLOW TELEGRAPHERS, A MINORITY IN THE UNION. FLORES' TIRELESS EFFORTS, INCLUDING WORKING WITH AIFLD ON LARGE NUMBERS OF BASIC COURSES HAVE FINALLY PAID OFF IN THE ELECTION OF HIS ENTIRE SLATE.

3. NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS ARE: PRESIDENT: MARIO FLORES; VICE PRESIDENT: J. OCTAVIO MAFUTE; SECRETARY-GENERAL: ALBERTO CHAVEZ LEZAMA; RECORDING SECRETARY: HERNAN BULNES; TREASURER: J. VIRGILIO MARTINEZ; FISCAL: LUCAS HERNANDEZ.

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4. COMMENT: SINECELH IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT UNIONS

IN THE TEGUCIGALPA-BASED FEDERATION, FECESITLIH. COMMUNISTS
WITHIN THE FEDERATION'S UNIONS HAD BEEN GAINING CONTROL OF
UNIONS AT AN INCREASING RATE DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS AND
THIS REPRESENTS THE FIRST MOVE IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION.
THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF A TREND
AND IT IS LIKELY FECESITLIH WILL CONTINUE TO BE IDEOLOGICALLY
DIVIDED AND BASICALLY INEFFECTUAL.
SANCHEZ

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